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PATENT APPLICATION
Mo-5599
LeA 32,647

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION OF)
GERHARD WÖTTING ET AL) PCT/EP98/06375
SERIAL NUMBER: TO BE ASSIGNED)
FILED: HEREWITH)
TITLE: SILICON NITRIDE SUBSTANCES)
CONTAINING SINTERING ADDI-)
TIVES AND SiO₂, METHOD FOR)
PRODUCING THEM AND USE OF)
THE SAME)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231
Sir:

Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments prior to examination of the above-mentioned patent application.

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Amended) Silicon nitride materials containing sintering aids and SiO₂ and a grain boundary phase, [characterized in that] wherein the molar ratio of the silicon dioxide in the grain boundary phase to the sintering additives including SiO₂ in the grain boundary phase is >60% and the oxide nitride content <1%.
2. (Amended) A process [Process] for producing silicon nitride materials [according to Claim 1, characterized in that] wherein, either alone or in combination,

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Date of Deposit April 17, 2000

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Donna J. Veatch

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